1999 NATIONAL HIV PREVENTION CONFERENCE

Abstract 674

TITLE: "Yo Homiez....Are You Capped?"

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ISSUE: The minds of high-risk of youth are difficult to capture in a creative fun ways. The making the connections between gangs, substance abuse, STDs and HIV is most challenging.

SETTING: This front line, grass root, community based father-son team speaks all ages, to high-risk populations and to trainers for out reach intervention.

PROJECT: "YO HOMIEZ!..ARE YOU CAPPED? ".....To understand the risk of gang connections, substance abuse, HIV/STDs; to better learn HIV/STDs 101 and gang behavior as a high risk. Using the latest three-dimensional visual displays of HIV/STDs and slide presentations of STD manifestations, groups will play games designed to promote learning through group interaction. This peer education workshop is conducted by a past gang member.

RESULTS: The ex-gang members 'hip-hop' art drawings and slides with the peer to peer language bridges and makes the connections between substance abuse, STD/HIV and gangs.

LEARNED LESSONS: High-risk youth can be reached with health messages if presented with media and peer format and presentations to which they can relate.

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